

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: July 6, 2021
Time: 10:00am
Place: Via Zoom Meeting
Egremont

Present at the meeting in person were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen, Board member Mary Brazie.

Others present via zoom: Mary McGurn and Chuck Ogden, and for part of the meeting Nancy Crawford and Michael Harrigan.

It was announced that the meeting is audio and video recorded.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 22 open and executive session meetings were accepted with minor edits.

SCHEDULED ISSUES:

The Board interviewed both Nancy Crawford and Michael Harrigan for two positions as Van Driver. The Board agreed to offer both a 15 hour per week position. Though it is unknown when the van will arrive and the drivers will begin work, both drivers can obtain the required training. The Board also agreed to ask a third application, Jake Nerzig, if he would be interested in becoming a volunteer/fill-in driver.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board agreed to ask the Buildings and Ground crew if the water tank at the French Park gardens could be raised up a foot or two and a hose connected to help in watering the gardens.

This years town birthday celebration is planned for August 21. Historical Commission member Barbara Kalish is asking if the Board would approve a small gathering outside at the Library with tours of the Archives room, as well she is wondering if the Board will be presenting recognition awards to Town Officials who have left service over the last year. The board agreed to the small gathering at the Library and the tours, but would like a Committee formed to plan the event as took place last year. As well the Board agreed to recognize essential workers who worked tirelessly during the pandemic, such as medical personnel and grocery store workers, instead of town officials.

The Board approved the following interdepartmental transfers:

Water Repairs to Water Utilities	\$1250
Water Repairs to Water Wages	\$4100
Holiday Lights fund to Misc Donations	\$1.33

Ambulance Donation to Misc Donations \$41.84

GRANTS:

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has asked for the Town's input on a Technical Assistance Grant to conduct economic recovery and resilience work in Berkshire County. It was suggested by Mary McGurn that the Town apply for assistance with its web page. Vice-Chair Vermeulen will follow up with BRPC. The Board voted unanimously to support the efforts of BRPC and to help in any way it can.

FOLLOW UPS:

Mary McGurn updated the board on Broadband issues as follows:

1. Brookvale/Hilltop Road pole locations: Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) is asking Fiber Connect for detailed descriptions of the pole locations which is difficult to provide as they don't know what will be found underground. Vice-Chair Vermuelen added that DCR is requesting a site visit which needs to be scheduled as soon as possible.
2. Low income subsidy: TRI is not available to give any free service. Jeff Lazarus has drafted a document that the Board has not seen yet with a proposed procedure.
3. Additional Pole Locations may be needed on Rowe Road and Jug End Road.
4. Hickory Hill fiber distribution is planned for later this week, weather permitting.
5. The location of the proposed headend at French Park has been moved to accomodate the wetlands in the area.
6. The poster announcing the discounted sign up rate is ready for distribution and will be sent to Office Administrator Brazie.
7. Fiber Connect is settling into its new location on Sky Farm road and is happy to have all its equipment in one location, and have office space available for its workers.

SELECTMEN'S ITEMS:

The Board will meet on July 20 at 10am.

Vice-Chair Vermeulen noted for the record that this was the first in person meeting since March 8, 2020.

Adjournment 3.43pm

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.22/jul6

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.